AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims

Claims 1-5 (cancelled)

Claim ~~6~~ 1 (currently amended): An isolated ~~compound~~ polypeptide comprising a contiguous sequence of amino acids within the sequence representing residues 149-~~197~~177 of the G protein of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), wherein ~~more than one of~~ cysteines 173~~,~~ and 176~~, 182 and 186~~ ~~is~~ are absent or blocked, wherein said ~~compound~~ polypeptide is not glycosylated, and wherein said ~~compound~~ polypeptide has the ability to inhibit infectivity of human RSV.

Claims 7-8 (cancelled)

Claim ~~9~~ 2 (previously amended): ~~A compound~~ The polypeptide according to claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein one or more amino acids is replaced by its corresponding D-amino acid.

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim ~~11~~ 3 (previously amended): ~~A compound~~ The polypeptide according to claim ~~6~~ 1, wherein the compound is labelled with a detectable marker.

Claim ~~12~~ 4 (previously amended): ~~A compound~~ The polypeptide according to claim ~~11~~ 3, wherein the detectable marker is a radioactive label.

Claim ~~13~~ 5 (previously amended): ~~A compound~~ The polypeptide according to claim ~~11~~ 3, wherein the detectable marker is a fluorescent, chemiluminescent or enzymic marker.

Claims 14-15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (withdrawn): An antibody directed against a compound selected from the group consisting of the compounds of Claims 1 to 10.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): An antibody according to Claim 16 which is a protective antibody.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): A composition comprising antibody selected from the group of the antibodies of Claim 16 and Claim 17.

Claims 19-20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (withdrawn): A composition according to any one of Claim 16 in which the virus is human RSV.

Claim 22 (cancelled)

Claim 23 (withdrawn): A method of diagnosis of *Pneumovirus* infection, comprising exposing a biological fluid or sample from a mammal suspected of being infected with said virus to a compound selected from the group consisting of the compounds of Claims 1 to 10, and measuring the interaction between the compound and said fluid or sample.

Claim 24 (cancelled)

Claim 25 (withdrawn): A method of identification of a cell surface receptor for respiratory syncytial virus G protein, comprising the step of detection of binding of a compound selected from the group consisting of the compounds of Claims 11 to 13 to a cell surface protein.

Claim 26 (cancelled)

Claim 27 (withdrawn): A method according to Claim 25, in which the cell is susceptible to infection by respiratory syncytial virus.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A method according to Claim 25, in which the cell is a HEp-2 cell.

Claim 29 (withdrawn): A method according to Claim 25, in which the method comprises the step of photoaffinity labelling of the receptor with a benzoylbenzyl derivative of the compound.

Claim 30 (withdrawn): A method according to Claim 25, in which the method comprises the step of labelling of the receptor with a fluorescent derivative of the compound.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): A method according to Claim 25, in which the method comprises the steps of binding a biotinylated derivative of the compound to a receptor, and binding of avidin to the derivative.

Claim 32 (withdrawn): A method according to Claim 25, in which the method comprises the step of using an antibody according to Claim 16 to detect the binding of the compound.

Claim 33 (withdrawn): A method according to Claim 25, in which the compound is multiply derivatised, thereby to achieve combined cross-linking, detection and identification of a receptor.

Claim 34 (previously amended): ~~A compound~~ The polypeptide according to claim 6, wherein the contiguous sequence represents residues 149 to 177 of the G protein of human RSV.

Claim 35 (previously amended): A diagnostic composition comprising ~~a compound~~ the polypeptide according to claim 6.

Claim 36 (cancelled)

Claim 37 (previously added): A diagnostic composition according to claim 36, wherein one or more amino acids is replaced by its corresponding D-amino acid.

Claim 38 (cancelled)

Claim 39 (previously amended): A composition comprising ~~a compound~~ the polypeptide according to claim 6, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 40 (cancelled)

Claim 41 (previously amended): A composition comprising ~~a compound~~ the polypeptide according to claim 6, wherein one or more amino acids is replaced by its corresponding D-amino acid.

Claim 42 (cancelled)

Claim 43 (previously added): ~~A compound~~ The polypeptide according to claim 6, comprising the amino acid sequence KQRQNKPPSKPNNDFHFEVFNFVPCSICG (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein the cysteine residues are derivatized with acetamidomethyl.

Claim 44 (previously added): ~~A compound~~ The polypeptide according to claim 6, consisting of acetyl-KQRQNKPPSKPNNDFHFEVFNFVPCSICGAmide (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein the cysteine residues are derivatized with acetamidomethyl.

Claim 45 (previously added): A method of inhibiting the cytopathic effect of human RSV, comprising contacting an RSV susceptible cell with the ~~compound~~ polypeptide of claim 6.

Claim 46 (previously added): A method according to claim 45, wherein the contiguous sequence of amino acids represents residues 149 to 177 of the G protein of human RSV.

Claim 47 (previously added): A method according to claim 45, wherein the ~~compound~~ comprises the amino acid sequence KQRQNKPPSKPNNDFHFEVFNFVPCSICG (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein the cysteine residues are derivatized with acetamidomethyl.

Claim 48 (previously added): A method according to claim 45, wherein the ~~compound~~ is acetyl-KQRQNKPPSKPNNDFHFEVFNFVPCSICGAmide (SEQ ID NO:39), wherein the cysteine residues are derivatized with acetamidomethyl.

Claim 49 (previously added): A method of inhibiting the cytopathic effect of RSV, comprising contacting an RSV susceptible cell with a compound comprising a contiguous sequence of amino acids within the sequence representing residues 149-197 of the G protein of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

Claim 50 (currently amended): ~~A compound~~ comprising a contiguous sequence of amino acids within the sequence representing residues 149-~~197~~177 of the G protein of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), wherein ~~none~~neither of cysteines 173, or 176, ~~182 and 186~~ is functional to form a disulfide bridge, wherein said ~~compound~~ is not glycosylated, and wherein said ~~compound~~ has the ability to inhibit infectivity of RSV.